



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### PERSONAL INGENUITY NETS CASH AWARDS TO FWS PERSONNEL

Personal ingenuity, inventiveness and ability are "paying off" in cash awards and honor certificates, according to the current edition of Incentive Awards Flier, publication of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior.

This issue which covers the period from October 1, 1955, to August 31, 1956, shows how the award system works to the advantage of the conservation program. During the 11 months there were 43 cash awards for suggestions; 39 cash awards for special acts and superior service, and 36 honor awards for distinguished, meritorious or commendable service.

One award was made for special conservation activities to a recipient outside the Fish and Wildlife Service--the Holyoke (Mass.) Water Power Company for better-than-required service in the development and operation of fishways on the Connecticut River.

The awards for suggestions ranged from \$10 to \$500. A \$500 award went to Robert H. Bain, game management agent-pilot, Cambridge, Maryland, for an indexed map system which permits better coordination of air and ground work in game law enforcement.

Other suggestions which resulted in cash awards included: An improved box trap used for catching small animals, \$100; a standard color code to be included in a revised safety requirements handbook, \$250; development of a new fish-cultural manual, \$250 to each of two contributors; a quick-freeze method for preparing sections of fresh tissues for microscopic study, \$100; an improved loading net for use in the distribution of sport fish, \$100; development of a fish barrier, \$120; creation of an electrical welded metal picnic table to replace cumbersome wooden tables in some places, \$50; development of an air-powered barge for use on refuges where waterways will not permit the use of other power, \$35; designing a master card to improve certain machine tabulations, \$75; device for cleaning concrete

raceways at trout hatcheries, \$175; a new type fish food cart which eliminates considerable work in the feeding operations at hatcheries, \$100; a modification of current meters used in plankton studies, \$150; labor saving devices in small workshops, \$25.

A \$500 award was given Fred L. Jacobson, regional personnel officer, Minneapolis, Minnesota, for contributions he made to game law enforcement in his 10 years in that activity. Another \$500 was given Charles H. Woodward, second officer of the Fish and Wildlife Service vessel, T. N. Gill, for a heroic rescue of five crew members in a North Atlantic incident.

A Distinguished Service Award was given to Carl J. Gruener, game management agent, Whitewater, Wisconsin, for saving the life of a drowning man at great personal risk to himself. A Meritorious Service Award went to William Earl Basnight of the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, New Holland, North Carolina, for saving a man from drowning. A Distinguished Service Award was given to Arthur M. Phillips, Jr., chief of fish nutrition investigations, Cortland, New York, for his work there.

Group awards were given the regional office staff at Portland, Oregon, for increasing the efficiency of the office; to the Leadville, Colorado, hatchery staff for achieving an outstanding record of production of fish of planting size; and to the Okefenokee, Georgia, National Wildlife Refuge personnel for their long and heroic fight against the fire which ravaged the swamp in 1955.

Numerous individuals received cash awards for performance and resourcefulness. There were also service awards in connection with retirements.

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